Horizon Hill Stormwater Management Project

The Horizon Hill Stormwater Management Project was recommended as a priority project in the 2001 Watts Branch Watershed Study to treat water quality and manage flooding from the 100-year storm for almost the entire 165-acre drainage area. The project includes upgrades to three existing stormwater management ponds (Sunrise, Pebble Ridge and Longhill ponds), stream restoration and park enhancements.

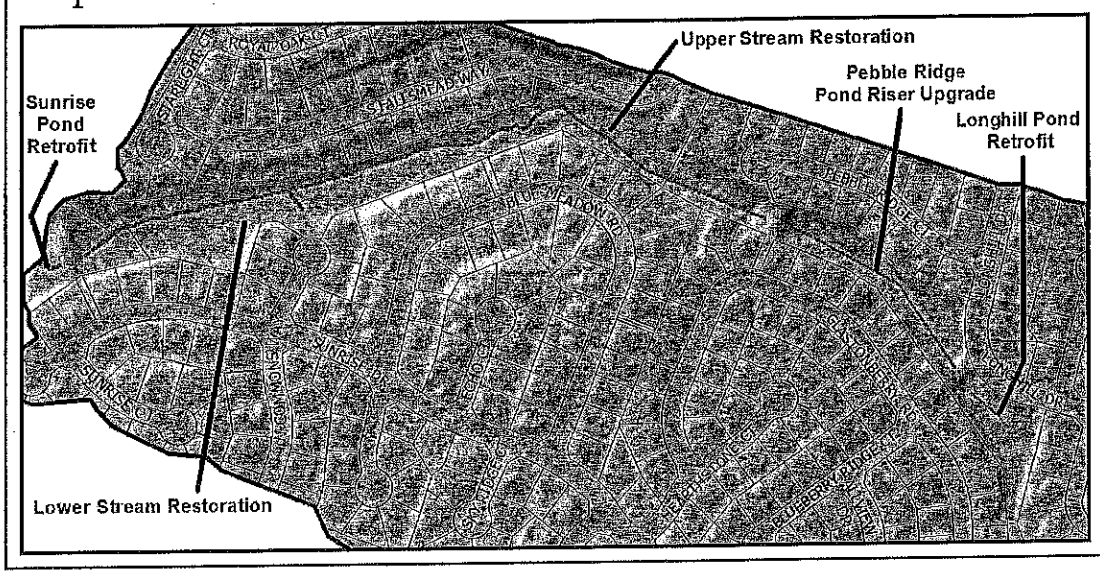
Community Meeting

January 30, 2014, 6:30 p.m., City Hall Mayor and Council Chambers

Agenda

1) **Project Background and Overview** (Craig Simoneau, Director of Public Works)
2) **Design Modifications Since November Meeting** (Gabe Kosarek, Civil Engineer II)
   a) Sanitary sewer crossing near Pebble Ridge Pond
   b) Stone veneer for concrete risers
   c) Reduction/replacement of stone rip rap
   d) Design elements to control mosquitoes
   e) Fountain amenities
   f) Landscape plans and forest impacts (Elise Cary, Assistant City Forester)
3) **Park Amenities** (Steve Mader, Superintendent of Parks and Facilities)
   a) Existing and planned park amenities
   b) Potential future improvements (Phase II)
4) **Community Input**
5) **Next Steps**

Map



The 12.2-acre Horizon Hill Park consists of a stream and stormwater management facility surrounded by wooded areas, trails, playgrounds, and passive recreation.

Project Goals

- **Improve water quality** in the Watts Branch Watershed by replacing existing dry ponds, which currently do not provide treatment, with modernized ponds that provide water quality treatment for the "first flush" of 3/4 of an inch of rainfall, as well as channel protection storage to reduce downstream stormwater impacts.
- **Reduce flooding**, meeting current stormwater management and safety standards by safely managing the 100-year flood through upgrades to the existing ponds and dam embankments that were originally designed for the 50-year storm.
- **Stabilize and restore streams** to minimize stream erosion and reduce pollutant loads to downstream tributaries.
- **Protect existing utilities, private property and recreation areas** from erosion and flood damage.
- **Enhance aquatic and forest habitat** through plantings and removal of non-native and invasive vegetation.
- **Protect and improve active and passive park recreation features.**

Project Description

- Convert three existing 1970s-era in-line dry pond stormwater management facilities into three modern stormwater management facilities. The upper and lower dry ponds will be converted to wet ponds with permanent, year-round water surfaces.
- Create 8,000 square feet of wetlands for enhanced stormwater treatment.
- Restore 1,300 linear feet of degraded and unstable streams using natural stream restoration techniques, including reconnection to the floodplain.
- Complete pond safety repairs and improvements, including removing trees from the dam embankments and relining the pond barrels.
- Enhance wetland and forest habitat by managing non-native invasive vegetation and planting:
  - More than 120 trees, including a wide variety of shade, ornamental and evergreens;
  - Approximately 1.5 acres of native shrubs in and around the pond edges and throughout the stream corridor; and
  - 64 species of high and low marsh vegetation on the perimeter of the ponds and floodplain.
- Relocate basketball court and trails to avoid flooding.
- Install new benches and pond fountains.

Schedule

Complete Design – March 2014
Emergency Repairs – April 2014
Advertise Construction Bid – May 2014 *(grant performance deadline)
Mayor and Council Construction Award – July 2014
Construction – September 2014 to November 2015
Phase II Park Improvements – T.B.D.

Estimated Costs

Design Costs – $400,000
Construction Costs – $3.1 million*

*In recognition of the environmental benefits of this project, the City of Rockville was awarded a $1 million grant by the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Trust Fund that is administered by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources to advance Maryland's goals for restoring the Chesapeake Bay.

Stay Involved

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Updated information is available at: www.rockvillemd.gov/index.aspx?NID=1102